News Review of Current Events

"REFORM" BILL PASSED

Measure Giving President Vast Powers Squeezes Through Senate . . . May Die in House

Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi, chairman of the senate finance committee, is here seen telling members of the press what his committee had done and proposed to do to the revenue measure so that it would be less objectionable to business and to the country in general. It already had made radical changes in the bill as it was passed by the house.

Edward W. Pickard
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK
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Wide Powers for President

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S reorganization bill squeezed through the senate by the close vote of 49 to 42, after a fierce fight. A motion to recommit, which would have virtually killed the measure, was defeated by a vote of 48 to 43.

Opponents of this bill are convinced that it paves the way for a dictatorship in the United States.

The measure was sent on to the house, which already has passed bills covering some of its features. There is no certainty, however, that the senate measure will ever be brought to a vote in the house. Chairman O'Connor of the rules committee said it should be allowed to slumber peacefully in some pigeonhole.

The bill authorizes the President, by executive order, to transfer, regroup, co-ordinate, consolidate, segregate the whole or any part of or abolish any of the 135 bureaus, agencies, and divisions of government.

Excepted from this section, however, are the federal reserve board, the corps of engineers of the United States army and the independent, quasi-judicial and regulatory establishments, such as the board of tax appeals, the communications commission, the federal trade commission, the interstate commerce commission, and the national labor relations board.

It abolishes the civil service commission as now constituted, and the general accounting office. It creates a new "department of welfare," and it authorizes six more $10,000 a year assistants to the President.

Ten Men to Probe TVA

FIVE senators and five representatives will do the investigating of the Tennessee Valley authority, for the resolution for a joint committee inquiry was adopted by the senate without a dissenting vote, and appeared certain of passage by the house. The resolution was introduced by Sen. Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, majority leader. It calls for investigation of charges of malfeasance and dishonesty made by the ousted chairman, A. E. Morgan, and includes eight of the twenty-three charges originally made by Senators Bridges and King in their first resolution for a congressional inquiry. It also calls for a "fishing expedition" into the activities of private utility companies and their injunction suits against the TVA.

Sen. Bridges

Sen. H. Styles Bridges, the New Hampshire Republican, in a radio debate declared the administration was trying to obscure the charges of scandal within the TVA by forcing the inquiry to cover the private utility angle. "The administration's strategy has been to cover up TVA dirt by a phoney counter-attack," he said.

He was answered vigorously by Sen. Lister B. Hill of Alabama.

Legality of President Roosevelt's action in ousting Chairman Morgan from the TVA board is still a matter that the courts probably will be called on to settle. Mr. Roosevelt "removed" Morgan after receiving from Acting Attorney General Jackson an opinion that he possessed the required authority. He reported the action to congress and said he had named Harcourt Morgan chairman.

Reasons for the removal of A. E. Morgan as given by the President were that he had made grave and libelous charges against his colleagues and refused to substantiate them at the White House hearings, and that he had obstructed the work of the authority.

Utilities Must Register

IN A 6 to 1 decision, the United States Supreme court upheld the registration provisions of the Wheeler-Rayburn public utility act of 1935, but did not pass on the constitutionality of other parts of the law, including the death sentence for holding companies.

The court sustained an order of the New York Federal District court requiring the Electric Bond and Share company and 14 associated utility holding companies to register with the Securities and Exchange commission or else be denied the use of the mails and other facilities of interstate commerce.

Chief Justice Hughes delivered the court's opinion. Justice McReynolds, who wrote no opinion, was the only dissenter. Justice Cardozo, who is ill, and Justice Reed took no part in the consideration of the case.

Colonel House Dies

DEATH after a long illness ended the notable career of Col. Edward M. House, whose name, during the World war era, was familiar to millions. He passed away in New York at the age of seventy-nine years. Shunning publicity and personal glory, House devoted himself untiringly to what he deemed the best interests of his country and for years his influence, especially in international matters, was great. An early supporter of Woodrow Wilson's political fortune he became Wilson's trusted adviser after his election to the presidency and continued to help direct his course immediately before and during the war, making frequent trips to Europe. He was Wilson's personal representative in the Versailles peace conference. Later he and Wilson disagreed and their close association came to an end.

Col. House

Franco in Catalonia

GENERAL FRANCO'S insurgent army blasted its way through the loyalist lines and entered the province of Catalonia, moving far toward Barcelona, the third capital of the government forces. In this rapid advance about 100 towns were captured in a single day and many villages were demolished by bombardment by a fleet of 200 war planes said to have been contributed by Italy and Germany.

Italy warned France that any French intervention in Spain "might compromise peace on the European continent." The organ of the Italian foreign office, Informazione Diplomatica, published the statement, declaring Italy was "following with greatest attention the campaign of French leftists for intervention in Spain."

Silver Buying Halted

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY MORGENTHAU announced that the United States had discontinued the purchase of Mexican silver until further notice. This probably was a direct result of Mexico's expropriation of foreign oil properties, which Secretary of State Hull considers a hard blow to his "good neighbor" policies. Price of silver was cut 1 cent an ounce.

The United States Treasury has been buying 5,000,000 ounces of newly mined Mexican silver each month, paying around $2,500,000 for it at the artificially maintained New York price, which gave Mexico sizable profits.

Japan's Regime in China

JAPAN announced officially the inauguration of the "reformed Government of the Republic of China" in Nanking. This puppet state is intended to replace the regime of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and is headed by Liang Hung-Tze as chairman of the new executive yuan, a position equivalent to premier.

The Chinese were still fighting the invaders desperately along the Peiping-Hankow railway and claimed the Japanese were suffering heavy losses.

Profits Tax Out

PAT HARRISON meant what he said about altering the revenue bill that was passed by the house. His senate finance committee is making the changes. By a vote of 17 to 4 it eliminated from the measure the undistributed profits tax principle, substituting therefor a flat corporation income tax of 18 per cent.

As a further means of stimulating business and investment the committee adopted a provision drastically modifying the capital gains and losses tax. The committee removed capital gains on assets held for more than 18 months from the income tax category and substituted instead a flat rate of 15 per cent, which was what business and industry wanted.

In an effort to clear the way for speedy enactment of the tax relief legislation, the committee rejected a system of processing taxes on wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco, and rice, which the administration desires to finance proposed additional bounties to farmers amounting to $200,000,000 a year.

Jews Must Quit Vienna

THERE are 300,000 Jews in Vienna, and all of them must leave that city within four years. This was announced in the Austrian capital by Field Marshal Goering, Hitler's right-hand man, who set forth a program for the economic reconstruction of Austria. He said: "Vienna must again become a German city. No city with 300,000 Jews has a right to call itself a German city. Vienna has to fulfill economic and cultural tasks, and this is impossible with Jews. Therefore, they must leave."

Gen. Goering

Goering said he had intrusted the task of removing the Jews to Seyss-Inquart and that it must be accomplished quietly and mercifully by legal means.

There was great rejoicing throughout Germany when Cardinal Innetzer, archbishop of Vienna, issued a solemn declaration urging the people of Austria, most of whom are Catholics, to vote for the union with Germany at the plebiscite on April 10. The document was read in all Catholic churches. It warmly praised the Nazi rulers and pledged allegiance to Germany. This stand of the Catholic hierarchy made certain an overwhelming victory for Hitler in the plebiscite. It also led the Nazi chiefs to hope for a new accord with the Vatican.

Britain Ready to Fight

GREAT BRITAIN will not flatly pledge herself to fight to save Czechoslovakia from German aggression. But she will use her armaments to fulfill her treaty obligations to France and Belgium, and is ready to go to war in their defense if they are unjustly attacked.

Neville Chamberlain

That was the warning to Hitler uttered by Prime Minister Chamberlain in the house of commons, in the most important statement of British foreign policy since the World war.

Declaring his belief that peace will be maintained, Chamberlain said: "I cannot imagine any events in Europe which would change the fundamental basis of British foreign policy, which is the maintenance and preservation of peace. However, that does not mean that nothing would make us fight."

Cheers greeted this declaration.

Though he said central Europe was not an area where vital British interests are at stake, he gave plain warning that if German aggression should result in war there, Britain might be forced into it.

He flatly turned down Soviet Russia's call for consultation against aggressor nations.

Wheat Crop Estimates

PREDICTION by the bureau of agricultural economics of the Department of Agriculture is that this year's wheat crop will be 830,000,000 bushels, or 160,000,000 bushels in excess of the 1932-36 average. The survey estimates that the wheat carry-over in 1939 will be around 300,000,000 bushels.

The record wheat crop is based on the following factors: If farmers seed the acreage indicated in the prospective-planting report, and if average yields are obtained, this year's spring wheat crop, including durum, will total about 200,000,000 bushels. This, together with the winter crop of about 630,000,000 bushels, indicates a prospective output of 830,000,000 bushels.

Pretty Silk for Her Easter Frock

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

DECK little daughter out in a pretty-pretty dress-up silken gown at the joyous Easter time and note what a radiant outlook it will give her. It will be as refreshing a sight as the flowers that burst into an ecstasy of color at the magic touch of spring to see little girls lilting their way along in the Easter style parade. It seems that silk for dress-up "Sunday-go-to-meeting" frocks has come into its own this spring in childhood's realm, more so than for many seasons past.

Mothers are becoming increasingly alert to the fact that bright colorful well-cut clothes are vastly important in the development of a child's personality. Often it is only a becoming dress that spells the difference between a confident happy child and a timid backward one.

Mothers will find inspiration aplenty as to "how to make" little daughter's Easter frock, in the trio of fashions illustrated, for they came fresh from the designers' hands and are alive with new "ideas." If you prefer to buy your child's frock ready made you will find more daintily fashioned silk models than have been shown for quite some time, but if you are a sew-at-home enthusiast all you have to do to make a dress after the manner of the model shown to the right is to take enough silk (navy printed silk taffeta fashions the gown pictured) to the pleater and the pleater pleats the skirt. Just ask little daughter, she knows!—knows that pleated skirts are very stylish indeed this season. To give the attractive styling to the top part insert puffed details in the sleeves and the bodice as pictured.

As to the little girl centered in the group it is not a case of "all dressed up and no place to go" for her outfit, even to her new wrist watch and the dainty white gloves she carries, unmistakably identifies her as one who will join in the style parade pridefully arrayed in her Easter finery. The dress is made of dainty flower-print silk crepe in delicate lovely colors. There is considerable smocking at the waistline, giving the corselet effect so popular in adult fashions, with simulated yoke effect repeating the smocking. The brim hat is of the same silk print.

Little daughter will look just as if she stepped out of a fashion plate if on Easter she wears a dress of plaid weighted silk taffeta (very smart is taffeta this season). Make the skirt with fan box pleats and grace the neckline with a pleated frill, as you see to the left in the picture. Velvet ribbon is used for the bow at the neck and for about the waist, which gives it still another claim as a fashion-first. When in doubt use velvet touches to finish off the dress or the coat you may be making, for as a trimming feature velvet is very important this season.

For children's dresses plain silk crepe in the new charming pastel colors ranks in high favor. These pretty monotone crepes revel in "oodles" of shirring, smocking, fagoting and other handwork detail. The colors available are entrancing.

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NEW IN THE MODE

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

Silk sweaters in bright colors with the tailored spring suit are important news. A cardigan fine slip-over silk sweater as pictured at the top can be buttoned in back or front. It has a boat neck and short sleeves. The silk knit has a small spaced arrow motif. The rough straw sailor has a bandana trim. The gypsy blouse shown here is in black and white polka dot silk crepe. It has a turnover collar and long full sleeves with turned back cuffs and a red silk chiffon handkerchief in the breast pocket. It is worn with a black silk taffeta upturned sombrero with a chin strap.

TAILORED OUTFITS HERALD OF SPRING

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

The annual blossoming of tailored suits is a surer sign of spring than the appearance of the first crocus. Of course, there are always modifications, and this year they take the form of lower waistlines, higher hemlines, and boxy shoulder details.

In keeping with this vogue, simple shoes are once again highlighted. Gone are the foot-revealing sandals that predominated in last year's spring line.

Shoe trimming details, including simple cut-outs, punchwork, and perforations, are especially significant because of their restraint. This is also true of colors. The blue, red, and copper-hued shoes now slated for style importance are considerably toned down to conform with the note of early spring reserve.

Nursery Rhyme Buttons to Adorn Spring Prints

Little Jack Horner was no more surprised than the fashion snooper is at the new forms of catalin buttons that are now being sewed on prints here, cotton goods there or just fastened to fancy little cards for the home dressmaker. Little Jack Horner happens to be one of the figures into which the catalin has been shaped and he is accompanied by such renowned persons as Old Mother Hubbard and her shoe, Little Red Riding Hood, the Piper's Son, Jack the Giant Killer and Mother Goose, herself, whose rhymes were the inspiration for these new shapes. Colors? Blue, green, orange and red. And, as strange as it seems, (or does it?) more of these buttons are being used on adults' apparel than on infant wear.

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